GEORGE R.

(L. S.)

Inſtructions to the Commanders of Our Ships of War and Privateers that have, or may have Letters of Marque againſt France, Spain, or the United Provinces. Given at Our Court at Saint James's, the Twenty-fifth Day of January, 1798, in the Thirty Eighth Year of Our Reign.

WHEREAS by Our former Inſtructions to the Commanders of Our Ships of War and of Privateers, dated 8th of January, 1794, We ſignified, that they ſhould bring in, for lawful Adjudication, all Veſſels, with their Cargoes, that were loaden with Goods the Produce of the French Weſt India Iſlands, and coming directly from any Port of the ſaid Iſlands, to any Port in Europe; and likewiſe all Ships, with their Cargoes, that were loaden with Goods the Produce of the ſaid Iſlands, the Property of which Goods ſhould belong to Subjects of France, to whatſoever Ports the ſame might be bound; and that they ſhould ſeize all Ships that ſhould be found attempting to enter any Port of the ſaid Iſlands that was or ſhould be Blockaded by the Arms of His Majeſty, or His Allies, and ſhould ſend them in, with their Cargoes, for Adjudication; and alſo all Veſſels loaden wholly, or in part, with Naval or Military Stores, bound to any Port of the ſaid Iſlands, and ſhould ſend them into ſome convenient Port belonging to His Majeſty, in order that they, together with their Cargoes, might be proceeded againſt according to the Law of Nations. And whereas, in conſideration of the preſent ſtate of the Commerce of this Country, as well as of that of Neutral Countries, it is expedient to revoke the ſaid Inſtructions; We are pleaſed hereby to revoke the ſame, and in lieu thereof, We have thought fit to iſſue theſe Our Inſtructions, to be obſerved from henceforth, by the Commanders of all Our Ships of War and Privateers that have, or may have Letters of Marque againſt France, Spain, and the United Provinces.

1ſt.

That they ſhall bring in, for lawful Adjudication, all Veſſels, with their Cargoes, that are loaden with Goods the Produce of any Iſland or Settlement, belonging to France, Spain, or the United Provinces, and coming directly from any Port of the ſaid Iſlands or Settlements, to any Port in Europe, not being a Port of this Kingdom, nor a Port of that Country, to which ſuch Ships, being Neutral Ships, ſhall belong.

2d.

That they ſhall bring in, for lawful Adjudication, all Ships, with their Cargoes, that are loaden with Goods the Produce of the ſaid Iſlands or Settlements, the Property of which Goods ſhall belong to Subjects of France, Spain, or the United Provinces, to whatſoever Ports the ſame may be bound.

3d.

That they ſhall ſeize all Ships that ſhall be found attempting to enter any Port of the ſaid Iſlands or Settlements, that is, or ſhall be Blockaded by the Arms of His Majeſty, and ſhall ſend them in, with their Cargoes, for Adjudication, according to the terms of the Second Article of the former Inſtructions, bearing Date the 8th Day of June, 1793.

4th.

That they ſhall ſeize all Veſſels loaden, wholly or in part, with Naval or Military Stores, bound to any Port of the ſaid Iſlands or Settlements, and ſhall ſend them into ſome convenient Port belonging to His Majeſty, in order that they, together with their Cargoes, may be proceeded againſt according to the Rules of the Law of Nations.

By His Majeſty's Command,

PORTLAND.